

## The Duchess And Princess Twice at Opera

Royal Visitors Hear Caruso at His Best in "Pagliacci" and See Louise Homer Welcomed Back as Orpheus—Emergency Fund Profits by a Bargain Matinee.

BY SYLVESTER RAWLING.

THE Duchess of Connaught and her daughter, the Princess Patricia, visited the Metropolitan Opera House yesterday. In the afternoon they applauded decorously Caruso in "Pagliacci" and in the evening they heard two acts of "Orfeo ed Euridice." There was no official or street recognition of them. They entered the opera house unobtrusively under the escort of Mr. and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, and save for some craning of necks and focusing of opera glasses upon the boxes in which they sat nobody paid any attention to them. One might have reasoned from the capacity audience of the afternoon that they were the attraction, but as the evening performance drew little more than the ordinary subscription, it was clear that the matinee crowd was attracted only by Caruso and the baritone counter bill.

The special matinee was for the benefit of the Metropolitan Opera Company Emergency Fund. It began with a roistering presentation of the first act of "La Boheme" by Scotti, Didur, de Segur, and Pini-Cori, in which Smirnov, as Rodolfo, seemed strangely out of place both in look and in action, and in which Alma Gluck sang Mimi delightfully. Sturani conducted. Then followed the scene in the woods from "Hansel and Gretel," with Marie Mattfeld and Bella Alten in the title parts and Lilla Snelling as the sandman, Alfred Hertz conducting. The first act of "Pagliacci" came next, with Caruso, Sammy Destina, Amato, Dink Gilly and Bada, Sturani conducting. Caruso was at his very best in voice and action. Never has the "Ridi Pagliacci" been sung so effectively. He was recalled until he was tired. Finally the prison scene from "Faust" was sung by Geroldine Farrar, Riccardo Martin and Leon Rothler. Sturani again conducting.

Louise Homer made the evening performance memorable by her resumption of the part of Orpheus in Gluck's opera, her first appearance this season. She was in lovely voice and her impersonation was more convincing than ever. She could not have failed to be impressed by the manifest affection for her of the audience, which recalled her times too numerous to count. Alma Gluck again truly was a Happy Shade. Marie Rappold was Euridice, Leona Sparkes was Amoré, and Toscanini conducted at his best.

Before "Orfeo ed Euridice" Gluck's "Venezia" was repeated with the famous cast of Johanna Gadski, Bella

Alten, Marie Mattfeld, Hermann Jadlowker, Otto Goritz, Marcel Reiner and Basil Ruysdael, Alfred Hertz conducting. The comedy was as effective as at first. But why, Mr. Gatti, put it on with "Orfeo ed Euridice," which in itself is long enough for one evening's engagement? The two together, even with short intermissions, kept the curtain up until midnight.

**PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA**  
PLAYS NEW WORK BY OBLIVIOUS.  
Josef Stravinsky and the Philharmonic Society Orchestra, at Carnegie Hall last night, played for the first time in America Delius's tone poem "In a Summer Garden." Walter Damrosch and the Symphony Society at the Century Theatre last season played "Brigitte," an English whoddy, a companion piece to it. These are the only works by this English composer that have been heard in New York. "In a Summer Garden" is a picturesque bit of nature painting, orchestrated somewhat oddly but effectively. It bears this motto from Rosetti:

All are my blooms, and all sweet blooms of love  
To thee I gave while Spring and Summer sang.  
The love scene from Richard Strauss's "Feuersnot," two elegant melodies for string orchestra by Grieg, Mendelssohn's "Ray Blue" overture, and Dvorak's lovely "From the New World" symphony completed the programme, which Mr. Stravinsky and the orchestra presented attractively.

**BONCI DENIES SPEAKING**

DISPARAGINGLY OF CARUSO.

Alessandro Bonci, the distinguished Italian tenor, now singing in the Middle West, has been credited in an interview with speaking disparagingly of his fellow artist, Enrico Caruso. Telegraphing from Chicago yesterday to his representative here, he said:

My reported interview about Caruso is a complete invention. I stated only that I devote myself to lyric repertory and Caruso to dramatic, hence requiring greater display of voice. I am convinced that the story was deliberately manufactured to create ill-feeling. I deeply deplore the incident.

One hour later he wired: Please give my telegram of denial just sent you the greatest possible publicity.

**BISHOP GREER TELLS HOW**

HE WAS ONCE NEARLY SHOT.

Describes at Banquet His Narrow Escape When Some One Fired at Burglar.

At a banquet in his honor at the Hotel Knickerbocker last night Bishop David H. Greer told of sitting one afternoon in his library when a bullet crashed through the window, missing him by only a few inches. He thought, of course, that some one had tried to kill him, but later found that the leaden pellet had been fired at a burglar.

The banquet was tendered the Bishop in honor of the eighth anniversary of the consecration to his office by the Church Club of New York. It was the club's twenty-fifth annual dinner. At the Bishop's table were Bishop Cooney, Bishop Burch, Rear Admiral Alfred T. Mahan, George Wharton Pepper, George Gordon King, Francis Lynde Stetson and Alexander Smith Cochran.

## TO-DAY'S WORLD FREE CONCERTS.

Afternoon—Brooklyn Training School, Park Place, West of Nostrand Avenue—2.30.

Evening—Eastern District High School, Marcy Avenue, Rodney and Keap Streets, Brooklyn—8.15.

Full Orchestra and Soloists.

Admission Free—No Tickets.

Kentucky Anti-Liquor Bill.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 26.—The "County Unit" bill, regarded as the most drastic anti-liquor legislation ever enacted in Kentucky, passed the State Senate late yesterday by a vote of 21 to 14. The measure, approved by the lower house, now goes to Gov. McCreary, who is expected to sign it.

The people of the town of Richmond, the present county seat, are opposed to its removal.

GRAND JURY VOTES FOR NEW COURT HOUSE IN RICHMOND.

And It Had Been Drawn to Investigate Costly Improvements in Borough.

The Grand Jury which was drawn to investigate the high assessments and costly improvements in the Borough of Richmond convened in Richmond yesterday. Commissioner of Accounts Vladimir, who was called to testify, said his investigation had not progressed sufficiently for him to give evidence either for or against Borough President Cromwell's administration.

Then the Grand Jury, which was supposed to be opposed to high assessments and costly improvements, about-faced and decided that Richmond County needed a new court house which should cost between \$200,000 and \$300,000. President Cromwell told the jury that the money was available and suggested that a commission be appointed to condemn property for the site at St. George. The Grand Jury recommended that the new court house be erected there.

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